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ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for processing mail is provided. The mail is serially fed from a stack of mail into a system transport. The system transport conveys the mail to a reader, which scans the mail to obtain image data corresponding to at least a portion of each piece. From the imaging station, the mail is conveyed to a scale, which weighs each piece. After the address for a piece of mail is determined, the piece is conveyed to a labeler, which applies a postage label onto the piece. In the preferred method of operation, the postage printed on the label is determined based on the determined address and the determined weight of the piece. After the postage label is adhered to the piece, it is conveyed past a verifier, which scans the printed label to ensure that the postage was printed properly, and the label was properly adhered. The mail is then sorted and stacked in a plurality of output bins.

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